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# Quadrennial reports for the period 2011-2014 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

**Note by the Secretary-General***

**Addendum**

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## 1. International Association for Religious Freedom

**General, 1995**

**Introduction**

The International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF), with its headquarters in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, counts 13 national chapters and 38 active member groups across 13 countries. It has five regional bases in India (South Asia office), Japan, Europe, and the United States of America.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The association pursues programmes in accordance with Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, working toward freedom from oppressive discrimination by state or social institutions on the grounds of religion or belief, on behalf of communities suffering from religious persecution or discrimination. It undertakes programmes in the areas of human rights education in countries afflicted by religion-based intolerance and young adult leadership development.

**Significant changes in the organization**

The organization's bylaws were amended at the 2014 quadrennial General Meeting held during the 34th World Congress in the United Kingdom. Following the event, the secretariat office in Osaka, Japan, relocated to London. Investments are held in the United Kingdom.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IARF conducted 55 trainings to a total of 2,750 people in India during the reporting period. IARF led seminars and trainings on religious freedom. It organized the Quadrennial World Congress in Birmingham, United Kingdom, August 2014, themed "Challenges for Religious Freedom in the digital age", which drew 200 participants.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IARF attended the following United Nations meetings:

- 16th-28th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (HRC);
- 15th-21st Special Session of the HRC;
- Session 6-20 of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), especially during the 1st and 2nd cycle reviews of the following countries in the UPR Processes: The Philippines, India, Pakistan, Japan, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, Kenya, Bahrain, Macedonia, Israel, Bangladesh and Islamic Republic of Iran;
- 3rd-7th Session of the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Geneva, Switzerland; and
- 12th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IARF cooperates closely with the Committee on Human Rights. It also acts as Secretary for the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief (CoFRoB) and is an active member of both the NGO Committee on Human Rights Education and Learning and the NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No activities were specified.

## 2. International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing (IAHSA) has grown to a robust network with a presence in 30 countries. IAHSA's mission is to connect and support care, housing, and service providers worldwide to enhance the quality of life for ageing.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IAHSA's goals are to advance quality of services; exchange knowledge, support, and ideas; provide education and training; support leadership development and promote innovation; grow applied research and its relevance to policy and practice; engage with international bodies to advance a commitment to address the opportunities and challenges of an ageing society; and advance the development and adoption of technologies.

**Significant changes in the organization**

IAHSA has added a chapter in China, IAHSA-China. IAHSA enhanced its strategies with a focus on applied research with an aim of creating an evidence-base through research that will inform policy and practice.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IAHSA is an active member of the NGO Committee on Ageing. It supports the work of the United Nations as it explores not only the issues of ageing, but also of families, women, and health. IAHSA regularly reports the work of the United Nations via its newsletter and website. It strongly encouraged its network to contribute to the World We Want campaign.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IAHS participates regularly in meetings of the NGO Committee on Ageing. It has submitted both oral and written statements comments to the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG) Sessions, advocating for the interests of the elderly throughout the world.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IAHSA has worked with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

As ageing was not explicitly included in the MDGs, IASHA's focus has been on advocating for its inclusion in the SDGs. It has submitted comments and worked closely with the NGO Committee to that end.

## 3. International Association of Soldiers for Peace

**General, 1995**

**Introduction**

The Soldiers of Peace International Association (SPIA) was created in 1988 in France. The organization gathers civilians and soldiers who have carried out Peacekeeping Operations under the United Nations since 1948.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization operates in mine-related emergency and humanitarian development. The organization's deminers and personal remain at the disposal of the United Nations and have served in different operations. Some members of the association also offer their services in other areas of mine action such as mine-free and explosive remnants of war, related advocacy, victim assistance, and mine risk education.

**Significant changes in the organization**

SPIA created new offices in Mongolia, Poland, Slovakia, and Czech Republic.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

SPIA participated in demining activities. It signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in 2013. In 2013, it also organized the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, and at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, France. Further, every year, SPIA participates in the Graduate Study Programme at the United Nations Offices in Geneva. Finally, in 2013, it created a decoration called "Grand-Croix de la Commémorative de la Paix" for people who took part in the peace culture, especially Heads of States.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization participated in the following meetings, among others:

- Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW);
- Annual Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons;

- Intersessional Work Programme, Meetings of the Standing Committees of the anti-personal Mine Ban Convention, Geneva;
- Intersessional Meeting of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM); and
- Participation in the Human Rights sessions, Geneva.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

SPIA collaborated with the United Nations Office at Geneva (ONUG). It cooperated with UNMAS in the context of the CCW. Finally, it signed a Protocol Agreement with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) on the International Peace Academy.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The association undertook humanitarian actions and donated material and medical consumables to hospitals in Togo and Somalia. Additionally, in every country where SPIA is present, it ensured that the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers or the Day of Memory for soldiers dead in operation was celebrated every year.

## 4. International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1996, the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) is an independent non-profit organization based in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

ICTSD works to advance sustainable development through trade-related policymaking at the global level. ICTSD advances its mission through three main types of activities: non-partisan reporting and analysis, policy dialogue, and research and analysis.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ICTSD works to build well-informed communities, support policy-focused dialogue, and empower stakeholders to act effectively on issues in the trade policy arena that impact national and global sustainable development.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ICTSD substantively participated in over a hundred United Nations meetings. Examples of participation in recurring fora include:

- ICTSD side events at each annual United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP), Durban, South Africa, 2011; Doha, Qatar, 2012; Warsaw, Poland, 2013; and Lima, Peru, 2014;
- ICTSD "Trade and Climate Change Day" side events and formal submissions at each June session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn, Germany; and
- Participation and/or side events at the regular World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) committee meetings as well as at the WIPO General Assembly.

In addition, ICTSD has participated in numerous events convened by other United Nations agencies, including among others: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and World Health Organization (WHO).

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ICTSD has jointly convened many events with United Nations agencies during the reporting period, including with FAO, UNCTAD, and WHO. It also collaborated on joint publications with FAO, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Trade Center (ITC), and UNCTAD.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ICTSD works to further the development of an open, rules-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system toward MDG 8. It addresses the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked countries, and small-island developing states through initiatives that include legal capacity building, protection of traditional knowledge, trade facilitation, and the development of more equitable markets. ICTSD works to ensure environmental sustainability through initiatives on sustainable energy, environmental goods and services, and climate mitigation and adaptation. ICTSD works toward MDG 1 with initiatives on food security and reducing distortions in agricultural markets.

## 5. International Chamber of Shipping

**Special, 1971**

**Introduction**

The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) is the principal global trade association for international ship-owners. ICS represents all sectors and trades and covers over 80% of the world merchant fleet.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The aim of ICS is to promote the interests of ship-owners and operators in all matters of shipping policy and ship operations.

**Significant changes in the organization**

In 2012, the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) and the International Shipping Federation (ISF) were merged to form the same organization. However, ICS continues to use the identity of ISF when representing the industry at the International Labour Organization (ILO).

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ICS participates in every committee meeting of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), as well as meetings of other United Nations organizations, as listed in the section below.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ICS representatives participated in, and where relevant submitted papers to, the following sessions of the parent Committees of IMO in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

- Maritime Safety Committee's 89th-93rd Session; 11-20 May 2011; 16-25 May 2012; 26-30 November 2012; 12-21 June 2013; 14-23 May 2014;
- Marine Environment Protection Committee's 62nd-67th Session; 11-15 July 2011; 27 February-2 March 2012; 1-5 October 2012; 13-17 May 2013; 31 March-4 April 2014; 13-17 October 2014;
- Legal Committee's 98th-101st Session; 4-8 April 2011; 16-20 April 2012; 15-19 April 2013; 28 April-2 May 2014;
- Facilitation Committee's 37th-39th Session; 5-9 September 2011; 8-12 April 2013; and 22-26 September 2014.

ICS has also attended all meetings of the IMO Assembly and Council during the reporting period. ICS (as ISF) coordinates the view of maritime employers in ILO tripartite discussions and has attended ILO meetings in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ICS is currently conducting an ongoing campaign to promote the ratification by governments of certain international maritime instruments, including certain IMO and ILO instruments. ICS produces publications for shipping companies, including best practice guides and guidelines on the implementation of international regulations, many of which refer to and promote IMO and ILO Conventions.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ICS engages in discussions regarding the development of further environmental measures, including reducing CO2 emissions from shipping, toward MDG 7. It also promotes free and open access to global shipping markets and regularly lobbies against individual countries' protectionist measures that may result in market distortion, toward MDG 8.

## 6. International Electrotechnical Commission

**Special, 1979**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1906, the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is the world organization that prepares and publishes international standards for all electrical, electronic, and related technologies.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The IEC works to enable global cooperation and the effective participation of all countries in global trade in electrotechnology; enable broad, safe, and sustainable energy access off-grid and on-grid; increase the safety and efficiency of individual electric and electronic devices as well as infrastructure systems; and increase the safety of explosive areas.

**Significant changes in the organization**

IEC expanded its membership to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Moldova. Its Affiliate Country Programme's participation increased to 83 countries with the addition of Azerbaijan, South Sudan, and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IEC operates a free Affiliate Country Programme for developing countries to encourage understanding and participation in standardization and the verification of conformity in electrotechnical devices and systems. IEC also works hand in hand with Sustainable Energy for All (UNSE4ALL) to promote universal energy access.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IEC regularly attends World Trade Organization (WTO) Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee meetings as an observer and produces a report on its activities. IEC actively contributes to WTO Thematic Course on TBT and regularly participates in WTO regional workshops. The organization participated as an observer in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Working Party 6 on regulatory cooperation and standardization policies.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IEC liaises with the following United Nations agencies directly or through its Technical Committee: The International Telecommunications Union (ITU), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), and International Maritime Organization (IMO), among others. IEC regularly collaborates with UNECE. Further, IEC reported at WTO TBT Committee (3 times a year) and received WTO delegations at IEC's central office.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IEC's work supports universal access to sustainable energy. In this context, IEC is a partner of the UNSE4ALL programme and facilitates access to photovoltaic standards for developing countries. Reliable energy access both grid-connected and off-grid contributes in many ways to multiple MDGs, including poverty reduction, empowering women, better access to education, improved health and food safety.

## 7. International Harm Reduction Association

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

The International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) is a leading NGO working internationally to promote and expand support for harm reduction.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IHRA works to reduce drug related harms by promoting evidence based public health policy and practices and human rights based approaches to drug policy through an integrated programme of research, analysis, advocacy, and civil society strengthening.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IHRA's work contributes to the objectives of the United Nations in the areas of HIV and human rights, in particular through its work on issues such as harm reduction progress, financial support for harm reduction, and drug users' human rights.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IHRA participated in the following meetings:

- United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Vienna, Austria, March 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014;
- High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, New York, June 2011;
- Human Rights Council, Geneva, Switzerland, September 2011, and delivered a statement;
- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) expert meeting on HIV in prisons in Vienna, October 2014; and
- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Coordinating Board Meeting, Geneva, December 2014 and delivered a statement.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IHRA regularly cooperates with United Nations bodies on activities relevant to its mandate. This includes regular collaboration with UNODC, World Health Organization (WHO), and UNAIDS in providing input and external review on a range of reports and other documents. IHRA was also a member of the Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs, UNODC's Drugs Civil Society Advisory Group, and the Strategic Advisory Group to the United Nations on Injecting Drug Use and HIV.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

IHRA supported MDG 6 on HIV, through the following activities:

- The monitoring of the global scale up of harm reduction services via its Global State of Harm Reduction Reports in 2012 and 2014;
- The monitoring of global financial support for harm reduction services since 2010; and
- The promotion of human rights-based drug policies and ending human rights violations against drug users.

## 8. International Peacebuilding Alliance

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

International Peacebuilding Alliance (Interpeace) is an international peacebuilding organization headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with offices in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; Brussels, Belgium; Guatemala City, Guatemala; Nairobi, Kenya; New York, United States of America; and Stockholm, Sweden. Interpeace supports peacebuilding efforts in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

Interpeace's works to assist local and national actors and the international community in responding more effectively to the challenges of preventing and overcoming conflict and rebuilding after war. Interpeace fosters inclusive political processes by ensuring the meaningful participation of critical and marginalized stakeholders through strategies and mechanisms that are adapted to each context.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Interpeace engages with and contributes to United Nations peacebuilding efforts. Through its International Peacebuilding Advisory Team, Interpeace provides direct advisory support to the United Nations in various countries and at the headquarters level.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

Through its presence in Geneva, New York, and Nairobi, Interpeace regularly participates in informal or formal meetings and contributes to policy debates on peacebuilding. For instance, Interpeace was requested to provide input to the high-level panel of experts in the framework of the review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

Interpeace collaborates with several United Nations agencies both at the headquarters and field level. Interpeace and its Malian partner, the Malian Institute of Research and Action for Peace (IMRAP) have engaged with the United Nations Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and shared findings of the nation-wide consultation process that led to identify the main obstacles to peace. In addition, Interpeace participated in a retreat of United Nations Special Representatives and facilitated a workshop on the challenges of operating in a conflict-affected environment.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

By helping war-torn societies identify ways to address deep causes of conflict, Interpeace helps to pave the way towards sustainable development in fragile societies.

## 9. International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association

**Special, 1975**

**Introduction**

International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) is the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

IPIECA works toward an oil and gas industry that successfully improves its operations and products to meet society's expectations for environmental and social performance.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

IPIECA organized joint workshops with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in Malaysia and Bahrain and 25 national and regional events in Africa in 2011 and 2012. IPIECA was closely engaged in the IMO Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation Technical Group meetings, held at IMO headquarters, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Additionally, IPIECA also developed good practice documents that are widely used as reference manuals for the industry.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

IPIECA attended many meetings during the reporting period, including the following:

- Second, third, fourth and fifth meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury, Chiba, Japan, 24-28 January 2011; Nairobi, Kenya, 30 October-4 November 2011; Punta del Este, Uruguay, 27 June-2 July 2012; Geneva, Switzerland, 13-18 January 2013;
- 21st Session of the United Nations Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (UNSCEGHS), 27-29 June 2011; and
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) Proteus Partnership meetings, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

IPIECA worked actively with the IMO, World Health Organization (WHO), UNEP, and UNSCEGHS among others. IPIECA worked with UNEP and WCMC to develop "A-Z areas of biodiversity importance". It attended UNEP's governing council meetings. It also attended the re-launch of UNEP's Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV) in October 2012, London, and contributed to the discussions.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

Access to affordable and reliable energy services is fundamental to reducing poverty and improving health, increasing productivity, enhancing competitiveness, and promoting economic growth.

## 10. International Social Security Association

**General, 1979**

**Introduction**

The International Social Security Association (ISSA) is a globally recognized authoritative body that issues professional standards in social security administrations. Founded in 1927 under the auspices of the International Labour Organization (ILO), ISSA counts more than 340 member organizations in over 160 countries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

ISSA promotes excellence in social security administration through professional guidelines, expert knowledge, services, and support to enable its

members to develop dynamic social security systems and policy throughout the world.

**Significant changes in the organization**

During the triennium 2011-2013, ISSA strengthened its role to become a provider of practical knowledge and impact-oriented tailored services of direct relevance to the mandates of member institutions.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

Well-governed, performing, and trusted social security administrations contribute to individuals', societies' and economic advancement.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ISSA participated in the meetings of the ILO and other agencies related to social security and social protection, and is a member of the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ISSA works in partnership with other United Nations agencies and international organizations active in the field of social security, particularly the ILO. ISSA supports the objectives of the ILO and is committed to promoting the body of ILO instruments, in particular in the field of social security.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

ISSA has actively contributed to the work of the ILO in support of the MDGs and the new SDGs. It has supported the inclusion of social security and social protection targets in the SDGs.

## 11. International Tunnelling Association

**Special, 1987**

**Introduction**

The "International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association" (ITA) was created in 1974 as a federation of Member States, gathering currently 73 Member States.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The main goals of ITA are to increase the awareness of the public and decision makers on the unique benefits of the underground, especially social and environmental; manage and minimise risk and assure safety and security in all tunnelling activities; and embrace sustainable development.

**Significant changes in the organization**

ITA created the Committee on new technologies (ITAtech) in 2011 and a Young Members Group in 2013. 13 new Member States joined ITA during the reporting period.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

ITA participated in the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNISDR) Urban Planning Group and Global Platform Meeting in 2012. ITA also became a partner of the resilient cities campaign. ITA participated to side events during the Council of Governors of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Nairobi, Kenya, 2012, and has been involved in an UN-Habitat Expert Group on urban drainage. Since 2013, ITA, through its Committee Itacus, is deeply involved in the Expert Group on drainage. In 2014, Itacus also organized a side event and a training session during the World Urban Forum (WUF) in Medellin, Colombia.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

ITA attended the Climate Summit held in New York in September 2014. In June 2014, Itacus attended a meeting with UNISDR during which the Terms of Reference for the Urban Planning Advisory Group (UPAG) were finalised. ITA participated in two preparatory committee sessions, held in July and November 2014, for the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

ITA collaborates closely with UN-Habitat and UNISDR. Itacus is Vice Chair of UNISDR's Urban Planning Advisory Group. Also, a Memorandum of Understanding with UN-Habitat was signed in 2012 and extended in 2014.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

In 2014, ITA participated in several workshops to contribute to the awareness about the use of underground space to cope with climate changes especially in mega cities. ITA, through its Committee Itacus, issued several videos to show how the use of underground space contributes to the MDGs. ITA delivered several conferences on "underground space use and MDGs" notably in Thailand, Myanmar, and the United Arab Emirates.

## 12. International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

Established in 1926, the International Union for Land Value Taxation is an international organization open to all, governed by a 15-member Executive Council.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The organization seeks to address wealth inequality and harmonize individual freedom with rights to the commons by reducing taxes on labour and production while collecting the unearned income — the "economic rent" — of land, natural resources and other nature and community created values.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

The organization reports on United Nations proceedings. The organization's major contribution is to present detailed, equitable, and practical finance mechanisms that can raise funds to pay for United Nations policy implementation goals. It wrote and distributed papers during United Nations meeting, including the following: "Commons Rent Public Finance for Climate Mitigation and Sustainable Development"; "Commons Rent/Land Value Tax Policy for Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements"; and "The Human Right to the Earth".

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

From February 2011 to June 2012, the organization attended discussions on and revision of the final document for approval during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June 2012. It also visited missions in South America to address the urgency of raising awareness on environmental protection, pointing out the significance of the term "Mother Earth". Nation State representatives were approached to request their support of the view that "the earth belongs to everyone" and the best way to share the earth was to support financial policies that will remove the tax burden on labor and products and instead to collect the "commons rent" (an "unearned income" or "surplus value") that accrues to the gifts of nature — land and natural resources.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The organization cooperated with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the Global Land Tools Network by participating in several of their events and meetings. It followed closely the Financing for Development process and has given a considerable amount of input to the Post-2015 negotiations.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

The organization has developed a number of documents for Land Value Taxation Policy Implementation Projects. These policies were called for in the founding documents of UN-Habitat. The organization tracks progress regarding land value tax policy on its website.

## 13. International Union of Latin Notaries

**Special, 1979**

**Introduction**

L'Union Internationale du Notariat (UINL) is an international non-governmental organization. Founded in 1948, the institution now comprises 86 notaries.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

The institution's goal is to promote, coordinate and develop the activities and function performed by notaries all over the world. It seeks to safeguard the dignity and independence of the profession so that it can better serve individuals and society as a whole. Its objectives are to support actions in the best interests of society (titling); partner with international organizations; facilitate the circulation of notarial deeds; develop a global network of notaries; and advance professional training.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

In partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), UINL helps developing countries acquire modern land titling systems. Together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the notaries helped draft the international voluntary guidelines on the governance of tenure and assist with the preparation of benchmark provisions for stakeholders in that field. With the International Law Commission (ILC), the notaries promoted legally secured and equitable access to land and land rights for the poor. In partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the notaries contribute their expertise to the work of international civil servants.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

On 14 March 2012, UINL delivered an oral statement at the 19th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland and, in March 2013 and 2014, it attended that Council's 22nd and 25th sessions. It organized a conference on women's rights with the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO) and the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), in Geneva, on 25 May 2012. In November 2014, it contacted the Secretary of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to offer its cooperation with implementation of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

The UINL is in constant contact with the United Nations Office at New York, Geneva and Vienna, Austria, as well as with the CoNGO and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

No initiatives were specified.

## 14. Jana Utthan Pratisthan

**Special, 2007**

**Introduction**

Jana Utthan Pratisthan (JUP-Nepal) is a non-partisan NGO that undertakes studies and research on subjects and issues of national and transnational nature and dimensions.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

JUP-Nepal's mission is to eliminate caste based discrimination and untouchability in order to promote and protect human rights of the Dalit community and support its political and socioeconomic empowerment. JUP-Nepal's strategy covers five core areas: human rights, advocacy and networking, social and economic development, research and publications, and education.

**Significant changes in the organization**

There have been no significant changes.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

JUP-Nepal created an international solidarity movement for Nepalese Dalit human rights, especially with the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), Economic and Social Council, Human Rights Council, Universal Periodic Review (UPR). It took actions to reduce poverty among Dalits and other marginalized communities in Mahottari district, Nepal. It established a Media Network at the District level on discriminatory issues. It conducted research, study, and assessments on different themes and published related reports and books.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

The organization actively participated in Nepal's first UPR in 2011. It also participated in the United Nations Department of Information (DPI)/NGO Conference on 26-30 August 2014, New York.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

JUP-Nepal worked closely with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nepal. It raised the issue of Dalit rights in Nepal's new constitution and the rights of youth and adolescents related to education and MDGs. JUP-Nepal supported the UNDP Participatory Constitution Building Nepal Programme (SPCBN). UNESCO also supported the organization with regards to constitution building and youth and adolescents.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

JUP-Nepal took part in discussions on poverty alleviation with civil society and government bodies in Nepal.

## 15. Japan Civil Liberties Union

**Special, 2003**

**Introduction**

The Japan Civil Liberties Union (JCLU) is an independent non-profit organization working for the protection of human rights. It was founded in 1947, with its headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. JCLU counts approximately 500 members, including lawyers, scholars, journalists, and students.

**Aims and purposes of the organization**

JCLU's goal is to protect and promote human rights for all persons regardless of beliefs, religion or political opinion.

**Significant changes in the organization**

As of 1 April 2013, the JCLU was authorized as an incorporated public interest association by the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan, thereby changing the status of its organization.

**Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations**

JCLU members monitor United Nations human rights activities and submit reports to United Nations related bodies. JCLU has submitted the following alternative reports in cooperation with other NGOs:

- Japan's Universal Periodic Review, October 2012;
- Review of the 3rd periodic report of Japan submitted to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), May 2013;
- Review of the 6th Periodic Report of Japan submitted to the Human Rights Committee, July 2014; and
- Review of the 7th to 9th periodic report of Japan submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), August, 2014. JCLU, together with other NGOs, pointed out issues involving the exclusion of Korean schools from the High School Tuition Support Fund, resulting in the CERD expressing its concern about this issue.

**Participation in meetings of the United Nations**

JCLU was present at the 111th Session of the Human Rights Committee held in Geneva, Switzerland, 7-25 July 2014, where the periodic report of Japan was considered.

**Cooperation with United Nations bodies**

JCLU has been a member of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Committee since January 2008. On October 19, 2014, JCLU held a symposium on racial discrimination in Japan, including hate speech.

**Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals**

JCLU formulated corporate social responsibility (CSR) guidelines to guide Japanese corporations in their efforts to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all. In relation to MDG 3, JCLU supported litigation concerning the demotion of a woman employee based on childcare leave. The plaintiff won the case at the Tokyo High Court on November 2011.